

Volume 17 Issue 2

February 2011

2010 WINTER RAINS AFTERMATH

At the time of this writing, TCWD and neighboring communities continue to pick up the pieces after the devastation from the winter storm that swept through the Canyon areas in December 2010. Just as individual homeowners experienced the severe conditions of the storms, so did TCWD's facilities and infrastructure. In an effort to demonstrate the aftermath of the storms, this issue of On Tap highlights some of the areas that were adversely impacted by the heavy flooding and subsequent land erosion.

The first picture is a familiar sight to many District customers. When serious rainstorms sweep through the Canyon, the bridge at Trabuco Creek Road can experience heavy flooding.



As evident in this picture, flooding can be to the point of the creek overtaking this main Canyon entry point. This situation presents a serious problem for both local residents and first responders, as it limits access to the Canyon. One of TCWD's concerns at this

location was the preservation of the Rose and Lang Wells Treatment Facility, which is in the final stages of a multi-million dollar upgrade project. Although the rushing waters from the creek eroded a large amount of soil, the first responders worked quickly to protect the well facility and transmission pipelines.

One of TCWD's primary potable water transmission lines was severely impacted by the storm.



In this picture, a sixteen-inch pipeline was exposed when the creek jumped its natural creek-bed and eroded nearly six feet of soil. When the soil was washed away, the high water pressure in the line forced the pipe to deflect and rupture, which resulted in the unnatural angle in the pipe shown in the photo. TCWD Water Department employees responded to this line break early in the morning before dawn, braving the elements and harsh storm conditions to ensure local residents in this remote location had water access.

The following image demonstrates one of the slides of soil on the access road that borders Dove Lake.



This road is used frequently by both TCWD staff and local trail enthusiasts on weekend hikes. Two major pipelines lie in the service road and the slide placed these lines in jeopardy. Although this represents the largest slope failure on the access road, there were also a number of smaller ones along the road on both sides. The damage to the area forced the closure of the road and resulted in a large amount of debris removal once the road surface dried enough to allow it.

Finally, in order to truly grasp the impact of over five inches of constant rainfall over a twelve hour period, a glimpse of TCWD's Tick Creek Pump Station submerged under six feet of water is a sight to be seen.



This facility is one of the District's Dry Season Recovery Pump Stations in Dove Canyon. Unfortunately, it is at a low point in the system and suffered as a result. The saving grace in this instance is that the pumps at this location are submersible by design. The greatest impact to this facility was the failure of the electrical components due to the flooding. The structure seen in this picture is approximately eight feet high.

These four examples are only a few of the many District facilities that were severely impacted by the 2010 Winter Storms.

ONLINE PAYMENTS

In response to customer calls concerning the option of online payments through the TCWD website, District staff is currently exploring opportunities to implement this convenience. We are hopeful this can be done efficiently, effectively, and most of all, with your concerns and requests in mind. TCWD appreciates your understanding during this time as we work to continue to provide the best customer service we can.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

The Regular Board of Directors Meeting is held on the third Wednesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the District's office located at 32003 Dove Canyon Drive, Trabuco Canyon. The public is encouraged to attend.

BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

The Board Meeting was held on January 19, 2011, and the following items are highlights from the Meeting:

- Status update relating to Baker Regional Water Treatment Facility
- Status update relating to Rose Canyon and Lang Wells Groundwater Treatment Facility
- Status update relating to Storm Damage
- Status update relating to Shadow Rock Detention Basin Facility Project
- Approval of Agreement between MWDOC and its Member Agencies

ON TAP is published and distributed by TCWD.

We welcome your comments, suggestions and questions. Please call or write Michael Perea at TCWD's ON TAP

Trabuco Canyon Water District
32003 Dove Canyon Drive
Trabuco Canyon, CA 92679

(949) 858-0277 Telephone (949) 858-3025 Facsimile
www.tcwd.ca.gov